

# THE FOUR WINDS

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL QUARTERS

**PROFESSOR PICCARD** is trying to raise money for a new ascent into the stratosphere.

Twenty-five members of the London Busmen's Flying Club have qualified for their "A" licences.

A report that Italy's air strength is to be increased by 1,500 new aeroplanes has been denied.

Brigadier-General W. Mitchell, who commanded the American military flying forces in France during the War, died on February 19.

The sum of £15,000 for acquiring and equipping Eastwood Park at Falfield, Gloucestershire, as a civilian anti-gas school has been included in a Home Office supplementary estimate.

Mr. J. V. Fairbairn, Australia's "flying M.P.," will travel to England next month by Imperial Airways. He intends to buy a high-speed British aeroplane, which he will fly home.

Finnish students have succeeded in raising enough money in a house-to-house collection to build a two-seater bomber. They have decided to make a second appeal for an additional aeroplane.

For flying over a forbidden zone in France, Herr Hans Haux, a German pilot, has been sentenced to sixteen days imprisonment at Seltz, where he landed. His £5,000 aeroplane has been confiscated.

Miss Ione Coppedge and Mrs. Josephine Gerrigus, of Dayton, Ohio, claim to have set up an international woman's altitude record for light aeroplanes. They reached a height of between 14,600 and 15,000ft. in an Aeronca.

The clerk at Stratford police court, when imposing a fine of £2 on Mr. C. W. A. Scott for exceeding the speed limit at Walthamstow, said "This is a gentleman who is used to speeding in an area which is not built up."

**NOT A POU-BUILDER'S NIGHTMARE**, but just a roadside interlude at Karachi, where The Aero Stores have built this *Pou-du-Ciel* under the supervision of Mr. Wainwright Fahey, of Karachi Airport. A Scott engine is fitted.



## French Air Force Reorganisation

A plan drawn up by the French Air Minister for the co-ordination of his country's air forces under one chief is expected to be carried out by the middle of March. General Pujos will be made Generalissimo and General Picard will be in command in the event of war.

## Pax

The Mablethorpe and Sutton Urban Council has been assured by the Minister of Air that every step will be taken to avoid the holding of bombing practice at the Southern Range during the first three weeks in August, when the holiday season is at its height.

## Wind in the Wires

Hearing a droning noise after dark, officials at Kastrup aerodrome, Copenhagen, concluded that a machine had lost itself, and sent up a military two-seater to shepherd it in. They found later—it

is reported—that the humming they had heard was the wind in the telegraph wires, and that the machine they had sent had crashed and killed both its occupants.

## Cave-man Stuff

The Scottish Office has received a unique reply to its recent request to local authorities to send representatives to a conference regarding air raid precautions. Portknockie Town Council replied that it did not need to co-operate in this manner as there were sufficient caves in the neighbourhood to accommodate the entire population of the town.

## Dorset Service Aerodrome

The Air Ministry, it is understood, is negotiating to secure 250 acres of land near Warmwell, Dorset, for an aerodrome. Two hundred acres of the land is owned by the Earl of Ilchester, who, as chairman of the Southern Sea Fisheries Committee, led the opposition to the Chesil Beach range plans.

## A Loss to New Zealand

*Flight* regrets to record that Sqn.-Leader M. C. McGregor, the oldest competitor in the MacRobertson England-Australia race, in which he did so well, has died from injuries received in an air crash at Wellington airport. Frequently mentioned in *War Birds* (he commanded a flight of No. 85 Squadron), Squadron-Leader McGregor has been closely associated with civil and commercial flying in New Zealand in post-war years.



**GAUDY RAIDERS:** Italian Savoia Marchetti S.81 bombers of the type which is being used in increasing numbers in Abyssinia. The S.81 may be regarded as a military version of the S.73 used by Sabena.

## Twenty-five Years Ago

(From "Flight" of Feb. 25, 1911.)

"Mr. O. C. Morison, starting from Brooklands on Wednesday afternoon with no more fuss than he would make in flying a few miles outside the boundaries of the aerodrome, arrived at Brighton in a time and at a speed that would shame the best express the Brighton and South Coast Railway have running."